

Anne Ottersen  
207 Swansboro Drive  
Apex, NC 27502

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Renata Hesse  
Trial Attorney  
Antitrust Division  
Department of Justice  
601 D Street NW, Suite 1200  
Washington, DC 20530  
Fax 202-616-9937  
microsoft.atr@usdoc.gov

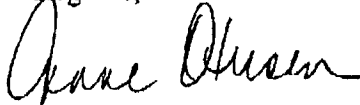
Dear Ms. Hesse:

As a public school teacher now on sabbatical, I know the importance of computer literacy to students in today's world. The products and services that Microsoft provides to schools, businesses and residences have played an important part in providing many people with opportunities to learn, work and improve their lives. So I hope the proposed settlement of the federal litigation against Microsoft will be resolved soon.

I understand that the settlement now before the court strikes a balance between restricting Microsoft's potentially anticompetitive business practices and allowing the company to get back to what it does best. Clearly, that is a difficult balance to achieve. But the fact that this settlement has been negotiated under court supervision, accepted by the U.S. Attorney General and accepted by a number of state attorney generals, including North Carolina's, makes a compelling case for its value.

I sincerely hope the court will approve the settlement and resolve this matter soon.

Regards,



Anne Ottersen